

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jun 10 12:37:42 1995
Date: Sat, 10 Jun 1995 07:37:42 -0500
Message-Id: <00991B02.A6059A80.71@tanuki.twics.com>
From: rrh@twics.com
Subject: <didn't bother with a subject>

Dear Sirs:

I would like to join the activity of your group. Please provide me with information on your activity.

Best regards

de JA1DOD

Roger Hanazawa

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 11 08:42:55 1995
Date: Sun, 11 Jun 1995 03:42:55 -0500
Message-Id: <9506110841.AA03017@kahuna.math.hawaii.edu>
From: jeffrey@math.hawaii.edu (Jeffrey Herman)
Subject: CW Trivia: didit dit

Thanks to Bobbi for an interesting article.

The ditdit dit was commonly used on 500 kc. At the end of a silent period, everyone might have a TTT or XXX broadcast to send, so I'd always precede the prelim with the didit dit as a warning to all the other Pacific shore stations that *I* was going to get my prelim out first before them! It almost always worked; some of the fellows got wise though, and wouldn't wait until xx:17:45 or xx:47:45 (the last 15 seconds of a silent period is reserved for the TTT and XXX prelims). The New Zealanders would start around the last 20 seconds to try to beat everyone. By the end of my 3 years at NMO some shore stns were starting their prelims as early as second :30!

Same thing occurred at the top of the hour - every one had a CQ CQ CQ DE xxx WX ES TFC LIST QSW 4xx KC UP to send and it was always a race to be the first one up, so again, you'd hear a dozen ditdit dits - sort of a way of saying ``Me first!''

The most polite ops were always the Japanese - they'd patiently wait until everyone in the Pacific had finished before they'd start their prelim bcsts.

Oops - there I go again reminiscing - I forgot - CW on 500 kc is just about QRT now. Phooey.

73 from Hawaii,
Jeff NH6IL (ye olde ex WA6QIJ)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jun 10 23:04:05 1995
Date: Sat, 10 Jun 1995 18:04:05 -0500
Message-Id: <9506101356.AA12472@unlinfo.unl.edu>
From: djw@unlinfo.unl.edu (daniel wright)
Subject: EFJ tr switch info

Greetings All!!

There has been some discussion lately about the EFJ tr switch #250-39. I have the "Installation and Operating Instructions" sheet. If anyone would like a copy, send a business size SASE my way and I'll send you a photocopy. It's just a single page (front and back), but it does have the schematic, voltage chart and some general specs, etc.

I'm gonna be out of town quite a bit during the next two weeks (summer remote season at the station...), but I'll get the copies out 'soon as I can!! 73 de Dan -- WA0JRD ..

Dan Wright
1001 Mulder Drive
Lincoln, Nebraska
68510-5036

djw@unlinfo.unl.edu

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 11 01:44:51 1995
Date: Sat, 10 Jun 1995 20:44:51 -0500
Message-Id: <950610214251_92476669@aol.com>
From: Jodaanve@aol.com
Subject: Re: Engraved panel - filled l...

Most hardware chain stores carry touch up paint or putty sticks in a variety

of colors. I have found that a off white color (almond) blends in better than white and has just enough yellow in it to make it look old. Removal of excess paint, on a knob or panel, can be made easier by carefully heating the area with a hair dryer, before wiping with a clean cloth. I have used this technique on several old battery radios with rubberized front panels with good results. Hope that this is of some help.

Dave WB9EGZ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jun 10 23:39:17 1995
Date: Sat, 10 Jun 1995 18:39:17 -0500
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950610044041.19665A-100000@crl12.crl.com>
From: Steven Wilson <randyw@crl.com>
Subject: Engraved panel - filled letters

I am looking for the paint stick that is used to fill the engraved panel lettering. I was told shoe polish would work but can not clean the panel up from that... ? Where can I find a white paint (?) stick ?

thanks de stan ak0b

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 11 04:56:49 1995
Date: Sat, 10 Jun 1995 23:56:49 -0500
Message-Id: <199506110454.AA01125@cruz.com>
From: Bill VanAlstyne <bill@cruz.com>
Subject: Re: Engraved panel - filled letters

At 06:38 PM 6/10/95 -0500, Steven Wilson wrote:
>I am looking for the paint stick that is used to fill the engraved
>panel lettering. I was told shoe polish would work but can not clean
>the panel up from that... ? Where can I find a white paint (?) stick ?

Antique Electronic Supply
(602) 820-5411

Called a "Lacquer Stik" -- they have them in White, Red, Black and Gold. All \$.90 cheap, each except for the Gold, which is \$1.90 cheap. Minimum order \$10, however. Call for their catalog if you don't have it.

Bill N6FN
bill@cruz.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 11 05:55:45 1995
Date: Sun, 11 Jun 1995 00:55:45 -0500
Message-Id: <199506110549.AAA15038@uro.theporch.com>
From: bgraham@tecnet1.jcte.jcs.mil
Subject: Re: Engraved panel - filled letters

I recommend the paint stick, but back when I was first starting to work on my KWM2A (it was a junker from the military) I used a toothpick and a bottle of white plastic model enamel. It worked but I don't think I'd try it now, being a geriatric f*rt <G>

Bill

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jun 10 23:22:03 1995
Date: Sat, 10 Jun 1995 18:22:03 -0500
Message-Id: <199506102002.NAA03403@ix4.ix.netcom.com>
From: nielw@ix.netcom.com (Niel Wiegand)
Subject: For Trade: SW-3, FB-7 and HRO Sr Coils

I have the following for trade:

SW-3 64A RF&Det 80 meter bandspread
SW-3 10A RF&Det 10 meter bandspread
SW-3 11A Det only 20 meter Bandspread
SW-3 14 RF only 2.5-4.5 General Coverage
FB-7 E Det&Osc 1.5-2.5 General Coverage
HRO Sr B 7-14.4 General Coverage / Bandspread

I'm looking for:

SW-3 60A Det&RF
SW-3 14A Det only
HRO Sr D
HRO Sr C
FB-7 E RF

Niel - WA5VLZ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 11 00:08:18 1995
Date: Sat, 10 Jun 1995 19:08:18 -0500

Message-Id: <m0sKSnX-000HyMC@beacons.cts.com>
From: kevin@beacons.cts.com (Kevin Sanders)
Subject: Garage sale find (heathkit)

Greetings fellow packrats,

I found a motherlode of Heath and other test gear and books at a garage sale last week, about 1/4 mile from my house. I filled up my trunk with the following items:

Test gear:

Heath model LG-1 laboratory generator (signal generator, 100 KHz - 30 MHz), works
Heath model T-3 visual/aural signal tracer, at least the aural part works. Magic eye lights but doesn't modulate properly
Heath model S-2 electronic switch (for making dual trace, audio only)
Heath model V-7 VTVM, works
Heath model C-3 condenser tester, includes high-voltage leakage test, sorta works (high voltage test works but magic eye doesn't modulate correctly for capacitance test)
Heath model CM-1 direct reading capacity meter, sorta works (measurements are 1/2 expected)
Heath model BE-4 battery eliminator, 6V@10A or 12V@5A, adjustable, dead
Heath model VC-3 voltage calibrator
Triplet model 2400 VOM in rugged metal case
Weston model 664 volt/capacitance meter
Various probes and test leads, including 4 Heath "bullet" probes
20A 6.3V filament transformer in sealed can (not FS, don't ask!)

Books:

Ghirardi, Radio Physics Course, 1931
Kloeffler, Principles of Electronics, 1944
American Technical Society, Applied Electricity, 1945. A home study course with 8 volumes.
Nilson and Hornung, Radio Operating Q&A, 1945
Turner, Basic Electronic Test Instruments, 1954

I don't know which of us was more stoked, myself for being able to bargain for the lot, or the seller who got rid of a tablefull of stuff at once ;-)
This all obviously came from an estate, but he apparently was not a ham since I didn't see a callsign anywhere.

First, I have some questions about some of the gear.

Anyone know what the voltage calibrator is supposed to do? It has a signal input and output, and selectable source of input signal or a particular voltage, and outputs a square wave of adjustable voltage. So I guess I know what it does, but how would you use such a thing?

The Triplet meter has several AC Current inputs, ranging up to 10A. These feed into a transformer. Is this meter capable of AC current measurement at 110V? Also, there is a rather large battery compartment inside with spade lug connections, I assume this is only for resistance measurement. What sort of battery is required here?

Second, I don't have room for all this gear, so if you are interested in any of it make an offer. I haven't yet decided what I want to keep, so it's not all necessarily FS.

73,

Kevin Sanders, KN6FQ (SDG)
kevin@beacons.cts.com

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Try Boatanchors
For A Real Lift

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 11 05:53:07 1995
Date: Sun, 11 Jun 1995 00:53:07 -0500
Message-Id: <199506110549.AAA15032@uro.theporch.com>
From: bgraham@tecnet1.jcte.jcs.mil
Subject: Re: Garage sale find (heathkit)

If I remember correctly, they sold that voltage calibrator to use in calibrating an oscilloscope.

73

Bill

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jun 10 23:28:05 1995
Date: Sat, 10 Jun 1995 18:28:05 -0500
Message-Id: <Pine.OSF.3.91.950610173200.21150A-100000@diamond.tufts.edu>
From: Paul McDonough <pmcdonou@diamond.tufts.edu>
Subject: HQ-180A question and Hallicrafters history

Hi,

Having recently purchased a Hammarlund HQ-180AC (thanks, Jerry!), I have two questions about accessories.

1) Where can I find a speaker for it? I've been told that the speaker is a model s-100 and/or s-200. (What's the difference?)

2) The 180A was modified (horrors! :-)) with an RF-out port which had a Radio West DD-2 digital frequency counter on it. Does anyone know where I can get this or another counter that has varying offsets (the 180A is double conversion below 7.85 MCS and triple conversion above 7.85 MCS)? Is Radio West still in business?

Since my last question bordered on non-boatanchorishness, I'll try to redeem myself by telling you that I'm posting from Halligan Hall, the Electrical Engineering building at Tufts University. Bill Halligan, the founder of Hallicrafters, was a student here for a year before moving on. I believe Bill gave money or equipment to the EE Department and was here for the rededication of this building in 1983. There's still a plaque from the dedication and a cool display in front of the EE office with big old tubes and ammeters etc. I've never seen any boatanchors hidden around here except for a SX-62A that some grad students were using as an FM radio to listen to local stations. Oh well. No Dual Diversity DD-1 still in the original box hidden in the basement. :-)

Hope you enjoyed the story (and help with the HQ180A!),
paul mcdonough

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jun 10 23:41:29 1995
Date: Sat, 10 Jun 1995 18:41:29 -0500
Message-Id: < Pine.SUN.3.91.950610100109.28572A-100000@crl7.crl.com >
From: Steven Wilson <randyw@crl.com>
Subject: INFO wanted on T-827B

Physical and electrical specs ? What kind of tubes and power does it run.

How did the Navy use them ? when ? what type of ship were they used on ?

good design, poor design, who built them... so days I am like a sponge just want to soak up information.... hi

de stan ak0b
e-mail via randyw@crl.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jun 10 12:27:09 1995
Date: Sat, 10 Jun 1995 07:27:09 -0500
Message-Id: < Pine.BSI.3.91.950610075051.4214B-100000@laurel.us.net >
From: Tony Stalls <ras@us.net>

Subject: Nebraska Surplus

My May 95 Nebraska Surplus Sales catalogue arrived yesterday (On June 9th!) and had some interesting "bargain priced" items including a REPRODUCTION 2" wide Collins winged emblem for a paltry \$49. I happen to have a real one that I've had for decades that must be worth at least that much! (No... Not really...) Anyway, keep this in mind if your old Collins BA is missing one.

73,
Tony
K4KY0

<ras@us.net>

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jun 10 23:16:18 1995
Date: Sat, 10 Jun 1995 18:16:18 -0500
Message-Id: <Pine.BSI.3.91.950610134926.11893A-100000@laurel.us.net>
From: Tony Stalls <ras@us.net>
Subject: Re: Nebraska Surplus

On Sat, 10 Jun 1995, Jim Lyle wrote:

> I've never heard of Nebraska Surplus... would you please send me (or post)
> their address so I can order a catalog? Thanks!

Hi Jim,

Suplus Sales of Nebraska (AKA Nebraska Surplus by me) is at 1502 Jones Street, Omaha NE 68102, phones 800-244-4567 and 402-346-4750, fax 402-346-2939. BTW, they are a regular QST advertiser.

They have items not normally found elsewhere, including a lot of NOS Collins and other parts. Some of us think their prices are a bit high, but if you need the rare part or two and they have it, then it's worth the money. Also, arguably the high prices may help guarantee that somebody doesn't buy these hard-to-find parts "just in case" and stick them in their junk box to be lost until the estate sale.

73,

Tony
K4KY0

<ras@us.net>

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 11 00:06:37 1995
Date: Sat, 10 Jun 1995 19:06:37 -0500
Message-Id: <m0sKS5i-000HyMC@beacons.cts.com>
From: kevin@beacons.cts.com (Kevin Sanders)
Subject: Potentially good manual source

In case any of you have an interest in broadcast equipment, I just received a manual from an outfit in Dallas which is of higher quality than those I have gotten from W7FG Vintage Manuals. I don't know how much amateur gear they cover, and they probably don't handle military gear (but it can't hurt to ask). The manual I ordered is one for a 40's Motorola television receiver. I got this address from the FAQ of rec.antiques.radio+phono. The place is:

Puett Electronics
P.O. Box 28572
Dallas, TX 75228
(214) 321-0927 or 327-8721

Their service is slow (at least 4 weeks, I forgot) but when the manual finally arrived it was worth the wait.

73,

Kevin Sanders, KN6FQ (SDG) | 0 ____ .. | Try Boatanchors
kevin@beacons.cts.com | o, _/ _/ .o | For A Real Lift
o,, @ o @ ,,o

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 11 02:00:41 1995
Date: Sat, 10 Jun 1995 21:00:41 -0500
Message-Id: <118068@w5ddl.aara.org>
From: n5off@w5ddl.aara.org
Subject: R-390A Users List

I sent an updated copy of the R-390A users list to the listserver a few days ago, so it should be ready to grab by now.

Here is how

73 de tom

Reply to: n5off%w5ddl.aara.org@usl.edu

To get a copy of the subject list, send a message to:

listproc@theporch.com

leave the subject line blank

in the body of the message type

get boatanchors r390a.users

Thanks to all who have contributed R-390A info. We have data on 100 rigs from 16 contracts. The lowest serial number seen was 2, and the highest in a given contract was 6140. Contributions include those from Dittmore-Freimuth and Fowler Industries contracts, as well as an EAC consumer products run.

As I mentioned in earlier posts, I am compiling a survey of R-390A's owned by people who frequent the packet and Internet boards. The object of the game is to try and ascertain how many contracts were let for manufacture, and how many were made.

If you wish to participate in the census and you own one or more R-390A's, please go take a peek at it (them) and then reply to me with this information:

- 1) maker (EAC, Motorola, etc)
- 2) order number (63-PH-54 for ex) from the front tag
- 3) serial number off of the front tag
- 4) any unusual features (tags, stamps, frequency shield, etc)

Thanks,

de tom n5off%w5ddl.aara.org@usl.edu Internet
n5off@k5arh.la.usa packet

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jun 10 12:11:58 1995

Date: Sat, 10 Jun 1995 07:11:58 -0500

Message-Id: <802780360.F00005@leotech>

From: Peter.Ferrand@leotech.mv.com (Peter Ferrand)

Subject: Radiomarine for sale...

Due to circumstances beyond my control, man's inhumanity to man, and the international conspiracy that controls the universe, I'll never get around to this project.....

Radiomarine CRM-R1A, complete with a large red RCA insignia, and covering 2-32 MC. This range is covered in three bands, tunable with a 2" by 8" slide rule dial and a continuous tuning knob. There's also provision for 20 internal crystals, and 20 push buttons on the front panel to activate them. There's a BFO with adjustable frequency, and RF and AF gain controls. The mode switch has four positions, off, on, selcal, FAX/AGC. There's also a front panel speaker.

Set is in a standard rack desktop cabinet with flip top cover, and it's 8.5" high and 10.5" deep. Condition of cabinet is OK with a edge scratches, front panel is very good and will clean up very nicely, even the paper strips above the buttons are nice. Less desirable is that one of the push buttons is missing, but it's a standard type that we've seen before. The slide rule dial has deteriorated due to some type of creeping crud infection, but would be easy to scan in and redo since it's just a flat piece of material.

Unit uses about a dozen tubes of the 12BA6, 12BE6, type, with a 50C5 and a 19X8 just to make things interesting. Unfortunately none of the tubes are included with the radio, which is why I have no idea whether this works or not. But hey, a little cleaning and it'll look great in a rack. I was going to use this as is, as a preselector, with that in mind.

Asking \$50 plus shipping from Nashua, NH. It's not super heavy with an aluminum chassis.

E-mail or call (603)889-1067 any time

73,
Pete
WB2QLL

* Origin: NETIS Public Access Internet (603)432-2517 (1:132/189)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jun 10 23:30:06 1995
Date: Sat, 10 Jun 1995 18:30:06 -0500
Message-Id: <199506101856.AA02734@ns-1.csn.net>
From: wkleros@csn.net (Bill Kleronomos)
Subject: Surplus Sales/Nebraska- Grrr!

The recent posting re: Surplus Sales of Nebraska brought to mind my one and

only experience with that firm. Everyone can draw their own conclusion.

About 5 years ago I ordered a "new, fresh Rockwell stock" mechanical filter for my 75S-3 from him, and paid a premium price. Upon receipt I noted the box was awfully beat up for a new stock item and had "\$35" written, then scratched out on the end flap. I took the unopened box to my office, where Ray, N0DMS also works- we were curious to see what the actual bandpass was before I installed it by using a co. owned tracking sweep generator. We connected the filter and noted at least 50 db of insertion loss and a screwy passband. I disconnected the filter from the test cables- with hope sinking fast. We wired it into the receiver- yes, it was dead. On careful inspection I noticed one of the end connection terminals was bent and the filter had a noticeable rattle inside when shaken. Damaged! The next day I had my UPS man look over the packing-- it was correct, adequate and there was no shipping damage evident.

I called, then wrote the business owner and explained the circumstances. Results: 1) He flat out- and without any discussion- refused to exchange the item or offer a refund. 2) He said it was damaged after he left his establishment , because he runs a "rattle check" on each and every Collins filter he sells and "it had no rattle" . (I can see where this might be a valid test to run, especially with "new, fresh stock" from Rockwell!)

I wrote to Rockwell in California to see what they'd suggest. I received a letter from their sales manager stating that they had never sold any filters to Surplus Sales of Nebraska, or anyone else in eastern Nebraska for that matter, for as long as they had records-- and they had moved from the address Surplus Sales had cited some 10 years earlier. So much for "...fresh Rockwell stock...." They were also concerned with the possibility that someone might be misrepresenting their products as they had a reputation to uphold.

In the end, I managed to get a full refund through my bank's VISA card unit after they reviewed the documents I provided them. Their feeling was the merchandise was misrepresented as to quality and origin. VISA then debited the account of Surplus Sales. I also described this transaction to the sales manager of QST, who could have cared less.

I have retained the above mentioned documents, records of conversations and filter/box as a referral for that business. Finally, the KDOHG English lesson of the day:

Per Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, 9th ed.: FRAUD....intentional misrepresentation of truth in order to induce another to part with something of value....

"Peak the grid, dip the plate, dive right in- don't hesitate!"

- de KD0HG/AAR8CC, ex WA90ZC

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jun 10 23:07:32 1995
Date: Sat, 10 Jun 1995 18:07:32 -0500
Message-Id: <199506102024.NAA29018@mozart.bcit.bc.ca>
From: "Colin Schmutter" <Colin.Schmutter@theporch.com>
Subject: Tube receiver for sale

-
+u3-^&eGyPEColin Schmutter
VE7CQH

CSCHMUTTER@BCIT.BC.CA

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jun 10 23:10:32 1995
Date: Sat, 10 Jun 1995 18:10:32 -0500
Message-Id: <199506102024.NAA29015@mozart.bcit.bc.ca>
From: "Colin Schmutter" <Colin.Schmutter@theporch.com>
Subject: Tube receiver for sale

* This message contains the file 'triosale.txt', which has been
* uuencoded. If you are using Pegasus Mail, then you can use
* the browser's eXtract function to lift the original contents
* out to a file, otherwise you will have to extract the message
* and uudecode it manually.

begin 660 triosale.txt
M1F]R(' -A;&4L(%1R:6\@.5(M-!"C;VUM=6YI8V%T:6]N<R!R96-E:79E<BX-
M"@T*5&AI<R!A(\$IA<&%N97-E(')E8V5I=F5R('=I=&@.2!T=6)E<R!A;F0@
M8V]V97)S(#4U,"!+2'H@=&\@,S`@34AZ(&EN#0HT(&)A;F1S+@T*#0I)="!I
M<R!132!0;FQY(&)U="!H87,@82!"1D\N#0H- "E%U:71E(&-0;7!A8W0@9F]R
M(&\$@='5B92!R861I;RX- "@T*5&AE(&-0;F1I=&E0;B!I<R!V97)Y(&=0;V0N
M#0H- "D%\$:VEN9R!P<FEC92`D-C`@55,@;V)0+"!P;'5S(' -H:7!P:6YG+@T*
M#0I297!L:65S('10(&-S8VAM=71T97)`8F-I="YB8RYC80T*#0I#;VQI;@T*
"#0I2

end

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jun 10 23:24:08 1995
Date: Sat, 10 Jun 1995 18:24:08 -0500
Message-Id: <199506102316.QAA29357@mozart.bcit.bc.ca>

From: "Colin Schmutter" <Colin.Schmutter@theporch.com>
Subject: Tube receiver for sale

For sale, Trio 9R-4 communications receiver.

This a Japanese receiver with 9 tubes and covers 550 KHz to 30 MHz in 4 bands.

It is AM only but has a BFO.

Quite compact for a tube radio.

The condition is very good.

Asking price \$60 US obo, plus shipping.

Replies to cschmutter@bcit.bc.ca

Colin

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jun 10 23:25:59 1995
Date: Sat, 10 Jun 1995 18:25:59 -0500
Message-Id: <199506102316.QAA29360@mozart.bcit.bc.ca>
From: "Colin Schmutter" <Colin.Schmutter@theporch.com>
Subject: Tube receiver for sale

Colin Schmutter
VE7CQH

CSCHMUTTER@BCIT.BC.CA

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jun 10 23:37:14 1995
Date: Sat, 10 Jun 1995 18:37:14 -0500
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950610163128.6337A-100000@crl6.crl.com>
From: Steven Wilson <randyw@crl.com>
Subject: Re: Tube receiver for sale

Yes If I want to sell something, but not really want to sell it
I would encode what I was selling, in order to prevent anyone
who might be a buyer from knowing just what I as the seller
might be selling. Enough said...

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jun 10 23:32:25 1995
Date: Sat, 10 Jun 1995 18:32:25 -0500
Message-Id: <950610172248_72227.1640_EHM137-1@CompuServe.COM>
From: Dave Stinson AB5S/7 <72227.1640@compuserve.com>
Subject: USING BAs

Someone asked: "Do you use your boatanchors?"
Well, I'll bring up the rear (as usual) of this thread.

Actually, since I got my BA stations operational, they have become my main working radios. My poor Drake TR-7 line languishes and my ICOM IC-735 has become the world's most expensive spotting meter.

(As an aside, I think the TR-7 line should be an honorary BA).

On 160 meters AM, I use an AN/ARC-5 Command Set station, consisting of:
T-17 1.3-2.1 Mhz ARC-5 Transmitter with rack.
R-25 Receiver, part of 160-40 receiver rack.
MD-7 Modulator w/DY-8 dynamotor.
T17 Microphone with telephone element.

On 75-40 AM I use an SCR-274N Command Set Station, consisting of:
BC-696 and 459 transmitters in rack.
BC-946, 454 and 455 Receivers in rack.
BC-456 Modulator w/ DM-33 Dynamotor.
T17 Microphone with telephone element.
Applicable control boxes, tuning splines, etc.

All Command Set equipment is original or restored to original (except the mike) and runs off the dynamotors at 22 VDC.
(I run low voltage to be kind to the dynos and tubes. Anyone know any reason running low volts isn't good?)

I regularly work most western states with these rigs barefoot at 15 watts of AM. When conditions are bad, I follow the rigs with a pair of 3-500's in a Swan Mark II amp for about 200 watts carrier out.

On 160-40 CW I use a Navy TCS-12 transmitter/receiver with PP-480 AC supply. The key is my pride and joy.

It's a J-36 bug, serial #12 from Vibroplex,
which was rescued from the Aleutian
Islands in Alaska.

Current summer project:
BC-375 transmiter and BC-348 receiver station.

Dave Stinson AB5S/7
Lost Wages, Nevada

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 11 00:55:32 1995
Date: Sat, 10 Jun 1995 19:55:32 -0500
Message-Id: <199506110053.AA07672@ns-1.csn.net>
From: wkleros@csn.net (Bill Kleronomos)
Subject: Variable Capacitor Ratings

Tony Stalls asks how variable capacitor manufacturers catalogued their products: by plate spacing or voltage.
I looked up some 40s &50s BA cap manuals and the answer appears to be both.

James Millen, National, Hammarlund and B&W issued capacitor ratings expressed in both plate spacing and voltage. It appears distributors often did not include both ratings simultaneously so as to save catalog space.

Other Factors: While there are theoretical voltage vs. airgap specs published in various radio books these figures should be considered guidelines. The actual construction of a capacitor often determines its real voltage potential, not just the airgap. Design factors such as polish of plates, end plate insulation, existence of sharp corners on the plates, and for us Colorado hams, altitude above sea level seem to affect breakdown as much as plate spacing. Many of these factors become obvious after building a few high- plate- voltage band blasters. And don't overlook the RMS vs. peak voltage issue.

Tony: About those caps of .075" and .125" plate spacings, and not knowing the brands: Hammarlund MC Midget types with .0715" spacing are rated at 1000V RMS- the National TMC type, .077 airgap was rated at 3000 v peak or 2100 V RMS (calculated). So, go figure! (Thanks for getting me to dig out those wonderful musty smelling old catalogs)...Bill

"Peak the grid, dip the plate, dive right in- don't hesitate!"
- de KD0HG/AAR8CC, ex WA90ZC

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jun 10 23:13:28 1995
Date: Sat, 10 Jun 1995 18:13:28 -0500
Message-Id: <Pine.BSI.3.91.950610135836.11893B-100000@laurel.us.net>
From: Tony Stalls <ras@us.net>
Subject: Variable Capacitors

In all the years I've been putting radio stuff together, I have always seen air-variable capacitors rated either by voltage or by plate spacing, but only in the Surplus Sales of Nebraska catalogue have I seen both. Does anybody know why they don't do one or the other? I would think that spacing would be preferable and ultimately the most useful.

Incidentally, the "SS of N" listing has .125 = 4KV for one and 1/8" = 6KV for another. Which is right? They also list .075 = 2.5KV. Does anybody disagree with that one, or for that matter any of the ratings?

73,
Tony
K4KY0

<ras@us.net>

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sat Jun 10 23:19:13 1995
Date: Sat, 10 Jun 1995 18:19:13 -0500
Message-Id: <9506100912.0CXCE00@24stex.com>
From: michael.moore@24stex.com
Subject: WHAT VIBROPLEX TO BUY?

WA>From: Andy Wallace <wallace@mc.com>

WA>OK crew, here's a tough one. Since I bid a tad too low on Don Merz' sale
WA>of bugs, what would be a good choice from the current stable?

Easy- they only make one type of bug in either standard or presentation dress.

WA>I can get a Standard with the grey (black?) base for \$100 or so from
WA>the local Ham Radio Outlet. Is this a reasonable bug? Are the
WA>mechanics of it still high quality? (That was part of my interest
WA>in getting an old one.)

Still well made. I've had one for about a year now but I don't really like it. Ugly Grey in color. Wish I still had the Deluxe Blue Racer that I had as a kid. Cost in 1957 was about \$25.00. Most beautiful bug in the world. Gleaming chrome with red jewels and plastic paddles. I swapped it for some dumb thing. Oh Well!

If your still lurking around here Mitch when will you start production of a new generation of Racers???:)

Anybody interested I might sell my one year old standard.

Mike...K6SQJ

WA>I've never used a bug but I copy about 20 wpm and am used to using
WA>a single paddle keyer, so I don't think using a bug would be too
WA>big a shock for me.

WA>Suggestions and comments about USING old bugs quite welcome!

WA>--Andy

WA>

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 11 01:13:54 1995
Date: Sat, 10 Jun 1995 20:13:54 -0500
Message-Id: <Chameleon.4.01.2.950610201137.gyoungma@gyoungma.gtel.com>
From: Grant Youngman <gyoungma@gtel.com>
Subject: RE: what Vibroplex to buy?

>Grant-
>
>> I just bought one of the new "made in Memphis" black-base Vibroplex
>Ah.... I really hate to pick this nit, but since my bride, N4AFG hails
>from Mobile, and Vibroplex lives there, too... I think in the
>interests of stopping one of those errors that creep into the lore
>over time... we might want to adjust our geography about 300 miles
>South and maybe 100 back to the East?
>
>*ELVIS* used to be "made in Memphis"... Vibroplex is now MADE IN
>MOBILE!!!! ;^)
>
>> Haven't taken the time to really check that out, but no matter -- a few
>> tweaks on the adjustments and it was sending effortless CW.
>They sure are nice bugs... I may just have to learn to swing! ;^)

>--
>73
>Jack, W4PPT/Mobile (75M SSB 2-letter WAS #1657/#1789 -- both all mobile! ;^)
> - - - BoatAnchor Mailing List Archiver/Owner - - -
>firebot1@jackatak.theporch.com - "Plus ca change, plus c'est la meme chose"
>
>
Oops. Now I know why I nearly didn't make it out of grade school. Darn
geography!! :-)

Wherever down south they're made, they ARE really nice. The new Presentation
model has a gold PLATED base, unlike the older one (which I have) which
simply has a gold plate mounted on top of the chrome base.

The owner's helper indicated that a new key a la the old Brown Brothers
with a straight key and dual paddle key mounted on the same base was in the
works. I'll probably have to acquire one of those, too -- it would be
too hard to resist.

The keys have "Mobile" (got it right that time) on the Vibroplex nameplate so
its easy to tell the difference between old and new.

Grant/NQ5T

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 11 04:39:10 1995
Date: Sat, 10 Jun 1995 23:39:10 -0500
Message-Id: <802852423.F00001@leotech>
From: Peter.Ferrand@leotech.mv.com (Peter Ferrand)
Subject: what Vibroplex to buy?

If anyone cares, back in August of 1970 I called the old
guy who ran Vibroplex at 833 Broadway and asked him for
whatever instructions came with a bug - I'd just gotten
one, secondhand of course.

He spent \$.06 to mail me the one mimeo'd sheet then supplied.
It really doesn't say very much we haven't seen before...
"use the tip of the thumb and the tips of the first two
fingers.....a free arm movement should be used..."

About the most interesting thing is that he says when
making a dot do not permit the fingers to touch the dash
side, and vice versa. Try this, it's almost impossible
to send when gripping firmly the handle.

Also he says to "always keep the contact points clean" but fails to say how! Certainly a subject of many hints and kinks.

There's not enough new here to warrant typing it in. Anyway, if you care for a copy I'll send it to you if you'll send an SASE to the callbook address over the last ten years, or e-mail if you want the address.

73,
-Pete
WB2QLL
Nashua, NH

* Origin: NETIS Public Access Internet (603)432-2517 (1:132/189)